(c) Both availability and price are important from the point of view of the consumer. Considering all these aspects, the situation has not warranted invocation of para 10(b).

(d) No, Sir.

तांबें का उत्पादन

*295. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क)क्या देश में तांबे के उत्पादन में लगातार गिरावट आ रही हैं;

(ख)यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग)सरकार द्वारा इस धातु के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए क्या प्रयास किए गए हैं;

(घ)सरकार द्वारा देश में तांबे की मांग को पूरा करने के लिए क्या प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं; और

(ड.)क्या इस धातु का आवात किये जाने को कोई प्रस्ताव हैं?

खान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरिधर गोमांग) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख)प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) और (ड.) वर्ष 1992 में तांबे के आयात को असारणी कर दिया गया था और इस पर लगने वाले आयात शुल्क को तर्कसंगत बना दिया था। सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रम, हिन्दुस्तान कॉपर लि0 ने अपनी वर्तमान प्रणाली क्षमता में 31,000 टन से 1,00,000 टन वार्षिक बढ़ोत्तरी करने की योजना बनाई हैं। निजी क्षेत्र में भी कुछ पार्टियां तांबे का उत्पादन करने वाली इकाईयां स्थापित कर रही हैं।

Unemployment among the Disabled People

*296. SHRI JAYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of unemployment among the disabled and non-disabled people;

(b) the steps being taken to absorb the disabled persons in gainful employment;

(c) whether remunerations paid to the .disabled are less than their counterparts; if so, the measures taken to rectify this imbalance; and

(c) whether any special benefits, privileges or concessions are being offered to the relatives of the disabled; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) According to the information furnished by Directorate General of Employment and Training, out of 3,66,91,509 persons in the Live Register of Employment Exchange 32,91,700 have been placed under employment upto 31.12.94. The corresponding figure for the disabled persons are 3,40,304 and 52,859 respectively. The respective percentages of unemployment among the disabled and non-disabled are 84.47 and 91.03.

(b) Statement-I showing the steps being taken to absorb disabled persons in the gainful employment is laid on the Table of the House, *(see* below).

(c) No information is available. However, there is no provision of fixing different rates for disabled persons under Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(d) Another Statement containing brief write-up on such concesions by the Central Government is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement -I

Employment among the disabled people

(i) 3% vacancies are reserved for physically handicapped 1% each for the visual, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped in group C and D posts in Central Government and Public Sector Undertakings. Similar reservations have been given by some State Governments. The handicapped including the blind are also given age concession in the upper age limit and relaxation in the medical standards for entry into Government services.

(ii) 35 Special Employment Exchanges and 50 Special Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to